CONTROL NO: 5653

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Duke Power Company Charlotte, N. C. 28201			1		100						
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DUKE POWER COMPANY

POWER BUILDING

422 SOUTH CHURCH STREET, CHARLOTTE, N. C. 18201

A. C. THIES SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT PRODUCTION AND TRANSMISSION

July 18, 1973

Mr. R. C. DeYoung, Assistant Director for Pressurized Water Reactors Directorate of Licensing U. S. Atomic Energy Commission Washington, D. C. 20545

Re: Oconee Nuclear Station Unit 2 Docket No. 50-270

Dear Mr. DeYoung:

The Babcock & Wilcox Company and Duke Power Company are currently considering a fuel rod irradiation program in Oconee Unit 2 Core 1. This program has been discussed with members of your staff, and based on their concurrence, we are proceeding with modification of two Oconee 2 Batch 2 fuel assemblies. The attachment provides a description of this program and will be added to the Final Safety Analysis Report as a supplement as soon as practical. In addition, the supplement will be referenced in the Final Safety Analysis Report as follows:

- (1) On FSAR Page 3-63, add a rote at the bottom of the page stating: "A maximum of 48 test fuel rods may be included in two Batch 2 fuel assemblies of Oconee 2; see Supplement 16."
- (2) On FSAR Page 3-79 just above Table 3-24, add a note stating:
 "A maximum of four test orifice rod assemblies may be included in
 Oconee 2; see Supplement 16."

We believe that this program will enable Duke and B&W to gain a better understanding of fuel densification phenomena, pellet cladding, interaction, and Zr-4 cladding creep.

Very 'ruly yours,

A. C. Thies

ACT:vr Attachment



P. O. Box 2178

